

Exploring Matter

K-5 The student will demonstrate an understanding that objects can be described by their observable properties. (Physical Science)

K-5.2 Compare the properties of different types of materials (including wood, plastic, metal, cloth, and paper) from which objects are made.

Taxonomy level: 2.6-B Understanding Conceptual Knowledge

Previous/Future knowledge: As with other indicators at this grade level, students will experience their first formal introduction to important science concepts. Students will further study this concept in 2nd grade when they classify matter (2-4).

It is essential for students to know that objects are made of different materials. These materials have different properties.

- Properties that can be used to compare objects are texture, shape, color, size, magnetic attraction, heaviness, or the ability to float in water.
- Materials from which objects are made include wood, plastic, metal, cloth, and paper.
- Similarities and differences between these materials can be made based on their properties.

It is not essential for students to go beyond this level of knowledge at this time.

Assessment Guidelines:

The objective of this indicator is to *compare* the properties of materials; therefore, the primary focus of assessment should be to detect ways that objects made of wood, plastic, metal, cloth, and paper are alike and different. However, appropriate assessments should also require students to *identify* examples of each material based on its description; or *infer* what an object is made of based on its properties.